

PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of

Masaaki NANAUMI, et al.

Appln. No.: Not Yet Assigned

Confirmation No.: Not Yet Assigned

Group Art Unit: Not Yet Assigned

Filed: January 18, 2002

Examiner: Not Yet Assigned

For: MEMBRANE ELECTRODE ASSEMBLY AND METHOD FOR PRODUCING SAME, AND
POLYMER ELECTROLYTE FUEL CELL COMPRISING SUCH MEMBRANE ELECTRODE
ASSEMBLIES

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Prior to examination, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please enter the following amended claims:

10. The membrane electrode assembly according to claim 1, wherein said polymer electrolyte membrane is made of a sulfonated hydrocarbon polymer that may contain oxygen in its skeleton or other substituent groups than a sulfonic group.
12. The polymer electrolyte fuel cell constituted by stacking a plurality of said membrane electrode assemblies according to claim 1 via separator plates

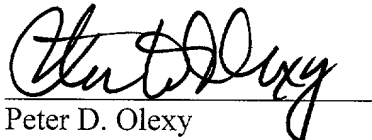
Please add the following new claims:

16. The membrane electrode assembly according to claim 5, wherein said polymer electrolyte membrane is made of a sulfonated hydrocarbon polymer that may contain oxygen in its skeleton or other substituent groups than a sulfonic group.
17. The polymer electrolyte fuel cell constituted by stacking a plurality of said membrane electrode assemblies according to claim 5 via separator plates

REMARKS

Multiple dependency is removed from the claims. The claims are not narrowed. Entry and consideration of this Amendment is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,



Peter D. Olexy
Registration No. 24,513

SUGHRUE MION, PLLC
2100 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20037-3213
Telephone: (202) 293-7060
Facsimile: (202) 293-7860
PDO/amt
Date: January 18, 2002

APPENDIX

VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE

IN THE CLAIMS:

The claims are amended as follows:

10. The membrane electrode assembly according to claim 1-~~or~~5, wherein said polymer electrolyte membrane is made of a sulfonated hydrocarbon polymer that may contain oxygen in its skeleton or other substituent groups than a sulfonic group.

12. The polymer electrolyte fuel cell constituted by stacking a plurality of said membrane electrode assemblies according to claim 1-~~or~~5 via separator plates.

Claims 16 and 17 are added as new claims.